



## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen**

Date: Monday, March 16, 2015  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA  
Present: Chairman Pepe, Vice Chair Fritze, Clerk G. Woodbury, Members Stevens & C. Woodbury and Administrator Gaudette.

Chairman Pepe opened the meeting at 6:15 pm.

### **Draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant**

Administrator Gaudette presented his first draft of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant for the Town Meeting on May 7, 2015. Highlights included balancing the FY2015 budget, FY16 operating budgets, regional school district assessments, capital expenditures, zoning bylaw amendments, and personnel bylaw and general bylaw changes. In addition Mr. Gaudette had an article and ballot question to change the elected Treasurer/Collector position to appointed and reducing the required quorums for Town Meetings.

He also presented an updated budget. Changes included Health Insurance premium adjustments which came in at an unfavorable 11% increase over FY2015. This added to the already \$907,000 deficit. His recommendation to balance the \$980,000 deficit is to make \$130,000 in General Government Budget cuts and have the SEBRSD seek an \$850,000 override for the amounts requested over the Minimum Local Contribution that are over the FY2015 assessment. Earlier in the day he attended the SEBRSD Budget Subcommittee meeting which was positive in that the committee understood the magnitude of the Town's deficit and began discussing reductions to their budget which would lower the Town's assessment.

One of the major increases in the assessments this year is the reduction in regional school transportation reimbursement (Chapter 71 Aid) proposed for FY2016. This is viewed as a net loss in local aid and the Board suggested Administrator Gaudette should send a letter to the Town's delegation explaining the Town's position.

### **Discussion: 2015 Pavement Management Findings**

Steven Tyler, U&F Superintendent, was present along with William Scarpati from FST who is the Town's Pavement Management Consultant. Mr. Scarpati presented his findings which include the Town's overall PCI (Pavement Condition Index) at 50.4. This is one of the lowest he has seen meaning Spencer's pavement conditions are in extremely poor condition. He presented several funding schemes including a "pro-active" approach and an "aggressive" approach. These funding scenarios are designed to bring the Town's PCI up and also reduce the backlog of pavement repairs. Steve and Mr. Scarpati advised the Board that the dollar amounts do not include drainage and other repairs which could add 20-30% to the overall cost of repairs. The Board will be considering adding a ballot question to the Annual Town election in the next couple of weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam D. Gaudette  
Town Administrator

**Referenced Documents**

Draft Town Meeting Warrant

Budget Update 3.16.2015

2015 Pavement Management Findings